Dear Bud, 11/15/75

Glad you took the time to come to my pressconference yesterday. I went into a little of the more dramatic, uncontestable and comprehensible of the evidence in this massive work. While I take it from the difference in our approaches that you were probably not impressed I also hope you noticed that it is the kind of evidence that addresses the crime and the treatment of the crime and including nothing conjectural, which in my experience and belief has been out major problem.

Probably you also disapproved my not giving press copies away. I began this with WWIV. It is not my purpose to subsidize the press with other tha n information and it is beyong my financial capacity to give copies away indsicriminately. The copies I have given away to date are two in the effort to sell subsidiary rights, one to Jim for his help and one each to Howard and the artist for theirs. It mya not be easy for those who do not have my financial problems to comprehend this, but my problems do include financial survival, there is not one of those reporters who is going to tell readers how to get the books from me and there is no single copy in an asingle bookstore for others to buy. In fact, had it been possihle for me to make the effort it was made impossible by the phlebitis, which does limit me, if less than before, tires me fast and from time to time is uncomfortable. Asode from the residual hazard. This also means that financially I must be much more restrictive in what I can do. Nobody offered any help when I took a private hospital room so I could work with others in confidence (which it turned out others wanted) and I expect no help from the continuing costs, except from the wonderful young people all but one of whom have been turnedofff by exposure to the approaches and efforts of others. Five were at the press conference yesterday. Two had come up to take me down, not wanting me to risk driving, and three were there to take me back. I knew only one of these three weeks ago and I sought none out. If they worry about me more than I think justified, I am grateful to the excesses of others which turned them toward me.

Prior to the printing of the book, in the thought that you kight want some copies to go to Members, I told Jim to tell you that I would let you have copies for this purpose at what comes to less than my actual cost. This I intended for Members only. As with WWIV, when it would have helped us all for Members to have copies (and despite their not having been given them have made extensive use of it). In all other dealings I must be consistent or there will be basis for legitimate complaint. When I have time I'll probably send a couple of copies to Members . Several have sent people here and bought copies in advance. It thus would be wasteful/to send them added copies. But among "critics" many of whom I do not describe this way I must have but one policy. If I do not some will have legitimate basis for personal complaint.

You will rememberthat with Frameup I bought and gave quite a few copies to Members. It does not bother me that not one thought the copy was from me and not one sent me even a pro forma note of thanks. It does bother me that not one made any use of any kind, not one had any further inquiry, and that limited as my means are this was a very poor investment for me.

However, I am prepared to mail to any Member you may want any copies you may want and at the promised discount. I'll mail any others you say want sent for you at the regular price all others are paying, if you want any. Criticis who want copies may obtain them from me or as happened with WWIV by a variety of unhidden subterfuges.

While I'm happy for you that you have no financial problems of this kind to contend with paying for the printing of this book alone, made possible by scrimping and doing without while I accumulated enough to reprint two other books about to go out of print, is cleaning me out at a time when I may face serious medical emergencies. I have to keep this in midf,if I hope it does not eventuate, and I have to try to prepare for the reprinting of those books about to go out of print.

Some of the critics, on learning of the book, wrote and ordered it. While I've been resting with my feet up I've also been licking thousands of stamps to go on a mailing that is now completed and will go out today, as will the first of the copies I have been able to package. (The printer sent the wrong size envelope which makes for

much extra work. There also are none of the correct size available in Washington or Baltimore. Some that require less extra work were in Baltimore and I've obtained a thousand of them. These will hold me until the printer can make a supply one that will give a snug fit. But the extra work will be enormous. In the few copies I've been able to package I have used fibe solls of 1700" of Scotch tapes besides marking and other taoes.) I will continue to mail books out in the order in which I receive orders. The only exceptions I anticipate are from members and the press. If I follow any other practise I will again lay myself open to criticism. This there will be anyway but I'll not knowingly justify it. And with each there will be a list of the other books. So I'll be doing what I can to let people know what is available, including those books that can seen be out of print. Somehow I'll reprint them and I have firm prices in hand.

There is another matter of which you should know. As I think you can understand I'm not up to my prior pace of activity. I'm also under medical injunction to end it. I've had to put in several long days, three or four that meant 19 hours out of bed and I've had sleeping pills prescribed for the first time to enable me to stay asleep. I do carry a heavy load of clots. Three known places. So, last night a little before ten I went to bed. Iwas awakened by a stranger who identified himself as of the CCI, Phon his name is Levey. He started asking me about the stuff I got in 226075. I gather than instead of asking me for copies "ane bought them from DJ. I have no objection. Once I had used them as I wanted to, my right with my work, I've have permitted cheaper copies to others and in fact began with several public offersmi of this. But your new bedmate continues in the illusion that he owns the subject and is determined to contonue to present himself as the only one who has done any work. Let him. It made no difference in my willingness to help this Leley. However, right off the bat he made it apparent that he hadn t the slightest idea what he was into or could do. The initial questions he asked made this apparent. I told him that despite the relations between Lane and me I'd help him as much as I could. I asked him what he had gotten. With one exception it adds to the same number of pages I got, so I knew what he had to work with. The exception may not be real because he described it in general only and would notg give more detail. He called it a three-page summery. I got nothing like this and he would not give me details. Hardly a way to encourage help from me, especially when he roused me from sleep and I was tired. However, I asked him how I could help him. He was really talking silliness. I asked him what his background is. Science, he said. This covers a multitude of sins and ignorances. So, when he was reluctant to tell me his expertise, assuming it exists, and I in an effort to be of help I asked him what he knows that is relevant. None of this material can be understood in a vacuum. He resented this. I then asked him what he was trying to learn. His actual response is the weights of the various pieces of metal used in the tests. I could hardly believe it but in an effort to get through to him, to get him to understand that his work would yield nothing and he'd waste his time (and the last thing we need is more public bullshit from Lane) I told him that with this approach he has not yet gotten to the greasy kid stuff.

Through it all he was more than arragant. I tolerated it for a while and then started giving him pointed answers, hoojng to get him to drop an offensive approach and to get in contact with something close to reality. I should have hung up on the self-important snot-nose at the beginning but to the degree I can I did want to be of help and there is on this what I have not been able to do. (This experience tells me that will have to await my ability to turn myself to it, but to how many things can I now turn myself?) I hope that when I told him he had not yet gotten to this greasy kid stuff it might have prompted him to stop and think. For example, was he duplicating what I had already done and could have given him? Or was he perhaps going about it the wrong way and maybe I could show him other ways. There are many possibilities the open mind could have conceived. But not Levey. His reation was thatI was insulting him and he'd therefore end the conversation. With nothing but les sleep in it for me I agreed.

I was willing to help even though Lane steals everytuing inx sight and goes out of his way not to let people know how they can obtain anything other than what makes him a lone unasisted genius. From this experience I'd best not try to takeany time with this kind of new "experts who will promote Lane only enyway. But because of your association and the probability there will be lying about this I take the time to let you know. Best,